

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

Selectmen, Treasurer,
COLLECTOR,

—AND—

Superintending School Committee,

—OF THE —

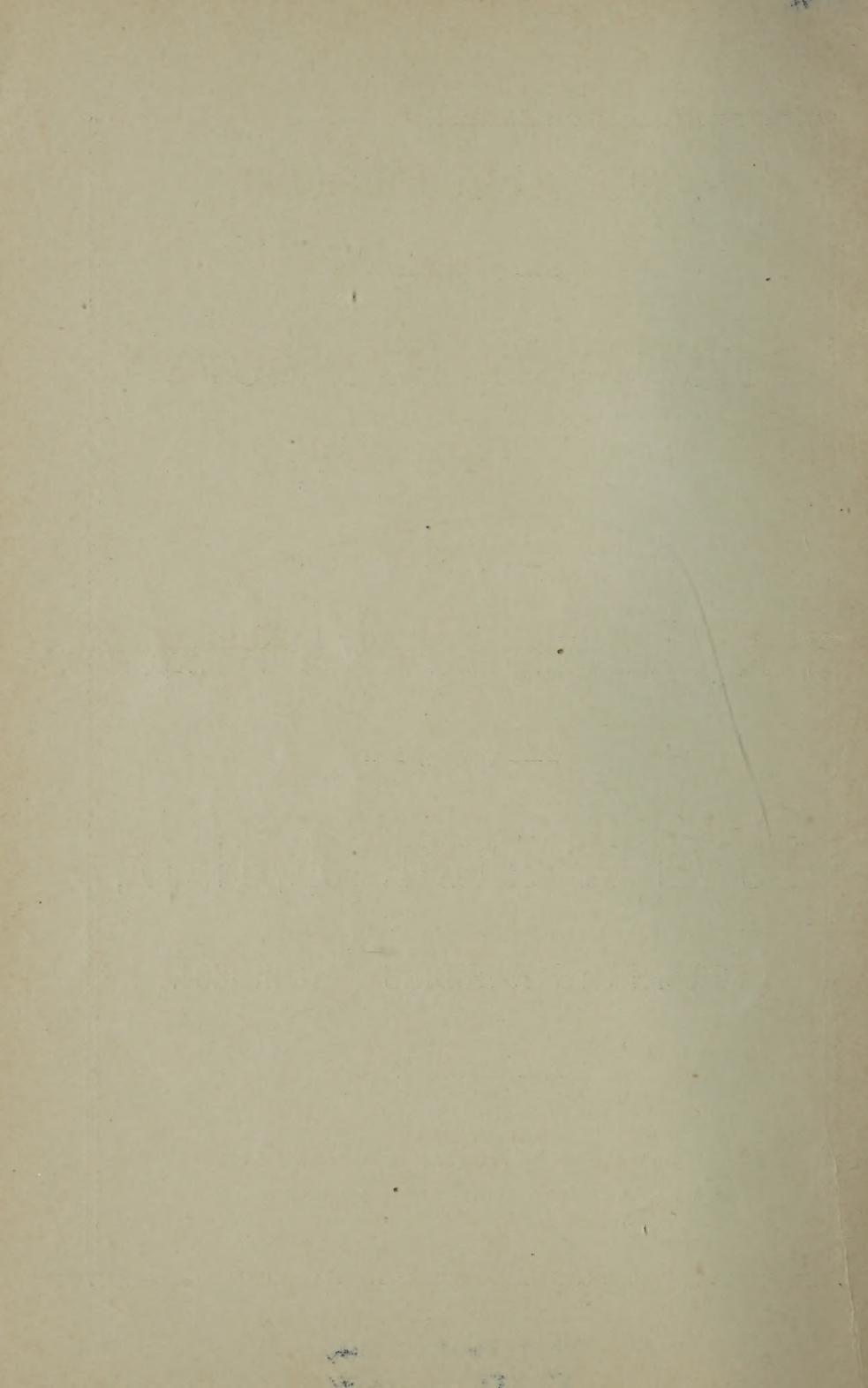
TOWN OF ATKINSON, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MAR. 1. 1884.

HAVERHILL:

MITCHELL & HOYT, PRINTERS, NO. 4 MAIN STREET.

1884.



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TOWN OFFICERS.

MODERATOR.

GREENLEAF CLARKE.

TOWN CLERK.

S. BURLEY MASON.

REPRESENTATIVE.

WILLIAM C. TODD.

SELECTMEN.

ISAAC S. NOYES.

STEPHEN C. P. TREFRY.

SAMUEL N. LITTLE.

TREASURER.

GILMAN GREENOUGH.

COLLECTORS,

WILLIAM T. BRAGDON and CHARLES FERNALD.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

JOHN DOW.

AUDITORS.

ISAAC R. HOVEY.

SAMUEL G. CHANDLER

CHARLES FERNALD.

CONSTABLE.

JOHN K. MASON.

Selectmen's Report.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN APRIL 1ST, 1884.

Real estate, resident, value,	\$185,610 00
“ non-resident, “	53,530 00
Number of polls, 144, “	14,400 00
“ horses, 117, “	7,060 00
“ cows, 374, “	10,691 00
“ oxen, 24, “	1,355 00
Other neat stock, 30, “	479 00
Number of sheep, 6, “	24 00
“ hogs, 31, “	298 00
“ carriages, 13, “	1,250 00
Stock in public funds,	7,000 00
Money on hand and at interest,	23,250 00
Stock in trade,	4,470 00
Mills,	800 00

Total valuation, \$310,217 00

On which valuation the Selectmen have assessed the following amount:

State tax,	\$712 00
County “	897 61
Town “	800 00
School “	623 00
Percentage,	69 56
Non-resident highway tax,	164 81
Dog tax,	40 00
School-house tax Dist. No. 2,	30 00
Per centage, “ “	1 29
School house tax Dist. No. 3,	310 00
Per centage, “ “	10 97

\$3,659 24

Unworked highway taxes for the year 1882, 23 49

Total amount in the Collector's warrant, \$3,682 73

The Selectmen have received and paid into the treasury the following sums:

Railroad tax,	\$54 35
Savings bank tax,	44 76
Literary fund,	32 64
Bounties from the State,	3 80
Choice of lots in the cemetery,	6 00
Received from Charles Fernald, highway surveyor of 1882,	55
Received cash paid Wm. Webb and Mrs. Howard,	33 50
Received from county on account of Hezekiah Smith,	32 50

Whole amount received,	\$208 10
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The Selectmen have given orders on the Treasurer as follows:

SCHOOLS.

District No. 1, C. B. Sargent, Jr.,	\$150 00
" No. 2, Wm. C. Noyes,	150 00
" No. 3, Moses G. Calef,	150 00
" No. 4 J. W. S. Cook,	150 00
" No. 5, Moses B. Stevens,	150 00
Conley's school tax,	2 05

\$752 05

NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAX

William F. Knight, Dist. No. 5,	\$23 38
Moses B. Stevens, Dist. No. 7,	22 08
Daniel Hitchcock, Dist. No. 8,	25 00
E. P. Hoitt, Dist. No. 10,	32 25

\$102 71

Non-resident highway receipts,	44 52
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\$147 23

BRIDGES.

John Pettengill, labor on bridge and filling in,	23 00
Town of Plaistow, one-half of bill railing bridge on town line,	1 75
I. S. Noyes, labor on same,	50
	<hr/>
	\$25 25

SCHOOL HOUSE TAX.

Wm. C. Noyes, school house tax Dist. No. 2,	\$30 00
Moses G. Calef, " " 3,	310 00
	<hr/>
	\$340 00

MISCELLANEOUS.

George M. Kimball, labor on highway, 1882,	\$1 50
Thompson & Batchelder, bill of books,	9 70
Bounty on crows and woodchucks,	4 40
W. H. Webb, services attending the town poor,	31 50
Mrs. Howard, " " " "	2 00
Mitchell & Hoyt, printing reports.	18 00
Gyles Merrill, rent of hall,	30 00
J. H. Cummings, coffin, robe and expense,	27 50
D. D. Chase & Son, bill of lumber,	2 10
George Wright, opening grave,	5 00
E. B. Frye, returning births	25
I. S. Noyes, hitching posts for cemetery,	1 25
James N. Nesmith, setting guide posts, boards, &c.,	5 00
W. H. Wason, setting hitching and guide posts,	3 00
John Dow, ringing bell,	30 00
George P. Dow, watering trough,	2 00
I. S. Noyes, time and expenses to Exeter,	5 70
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$178 90

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$178 90
Gilman Greenough, paying state and county tax and settling with collector,	1 50
I. S. Noyes, stationery, &c.,	2 11
“ services attending Hezekiah Smith,	3 00
C. F. Noyes, drawing safe,	1 50
Charles Fernald, care of hall and badge,	2 25
S. C. P. Trefry, time and expense to Exeter and Lawrence,	5 70
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	\$194 96

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

James Morse, poll tax,	1 00
C. S. Hoitt,	1 20
W. P. Knight,	1 38
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	\$3 58

TOWN OFFICERS.

Charles C. Greenough, auditor, 1882,	\$1 50
Robert M. Birmingham, “	1 50
Isaac R. Hovey, “	1 50
C. V. Calderwood, supervisor, 1879 and 1880,	5 00
Samuel B. Mason, town clerk,	16 00
John Dow, S. S. Committee,	20 00
Gilman Greenough, treasurer,	15 00
Charles Fernald, collector,	20 00
Samuel N. Little, selectman,	30 00
Stephen C. P. Trefry, “	38 00
Isaac S. Noyes, “	55 00
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	\$203 50

The Selectmen have also assessed the valuation of the town at the rate of 30 cents on \$100 for the support of highways; and apportioned the money as follows:

District No 1.—C. F. Noyes,	\$123 48
“ 2—D. W. Goodnow.	119 56
“ 3—J. H. Noyes.	80 90
“ 4.—J. A. Mc Niel,	141 76
“ 5.—Wm. F. Knight,	88 77
“ 6.—James Knight,	52 69
“ 7.—Moses B. Stevens,	47 87
“ 8.—Daniel Hitchcock,	28 77
“ 9.—J. W. Conley,	23 18
“ 10.—E. P. Hoitt,	53 24
“ 11 —John Pettengill,	19 59
“ 12.—Alonzo Knight,	24 52
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	\$804 33

RECAPITULATION.

Amount in collector's warrant,	\$3,682 72	
“ received from other sources,	208 10	
	<hr/>	\$3,890 82
Paid on account of schools,	\$752 05	
“ “ non-resident highway orders,	102 71	
“ “ non resident highway receipts,	44 52	
“ “ of bridges,	25 25	
“ “ for miscellaneous expenses,	194 96	
“ “ town officers,	203 50	
“ “ abatement taxes,	3 58	
“ school-house tax, Dist No. 2,	30 00	
“ school-house tax, Dist. No. 3,	310 00	
“ State tax (by treasurer),	712 00	
“ County tax (by treasurer),	897 61	\$3,276 18
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Balance,		\$614 64
ISAAC S. NOYES, STEPHEN C. P. TREFRY, SAMUEL N. LITTLE,		} Selectmen of Atkinson.

Collector's Report.

W. T. BRAGDON, Collector, in acct. with the Selectmen.

To amount of taxes assessed 1883,		\$3,659 24
Unworked highway tax of 1882,		23 49
		<hr/>
		\$3,682 73
Amount of collector's receipts,	\$2,424 72	
Unworked highway taxes, charged		
to Charles Fernald,	20 01	
Due collector for services,	30 00	
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	\$2,474 73	2,474 73
		<hr/>
		\$1,208 00
Amount charged Chas. Fernald,		1,094 02
		<hr/>
Due the town from W. T. Bragdon,		\$113 98

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The collector charges himself with:	
Amount in warrant,	\$1,114 03
And credits himself:	
By receipts of treasurer,	822 00
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Balance in his hands (uncollected),	\$292 03

CHARLES FERNALD, Collector.

Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer charges himself with:

Cash on hand March 1, 1883,	\$166 95
“ received from State for bounties,	3 80
“ “ “ “ railroad tax,	54 35
“ “ “ “ savings bank tax,	44 76
“ “ “ “ literary fund,	32 64
“ “ “ collector of 1881,	11 00
“ “ “ “ 1882,	264 30
“ “ “ “ W. T. Brag-	
don, 1883,	2,424 72
Cash received from Collector C. Fernald, 1883,	822 00
“ “ County,	32 50
“ “ cemetery lots,	6 00
“ “ Selectmen,	34 05

\$3,897 07

He credits himself as follows:

By paying State tax,	\$712 00
“ County tax,	897 61
“ Selectmen's orders,	1,666 57
“ town note,	400 00
“ interest on debt,	76 00

\$3,752 18

Cash in hands of treasurer,

\$144 89

 FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

TOWN LIABILITIES

Due on town notes,	\$1,500 00
William T. Bragdon, for collecting,	30 00
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	\$1,530 00

ASSETS.

Due from state bounties,	\$4.40	
Taxes of 1882,	38 86	
W. T. Bragdon, taxes of 1883.	143 98	
C. Fernald, " "	292 03	
Cash in treasury,	144 89	
	<hr/>	624 16
Balance against the town,		\$905 84
Town debt reduced the past year,		509 25

GILMAN GREENOUGH, Treasurer.

The foregoing is a correct statement of the town finances, March 1, 1884, as appears from the books of the Selectmen, Collector and Treasurer. We find the accounts correctly kept and satisfactorily vouched for.

ISAAC R. HOVEY, }
 CHARLES FERNALD, } Auditors.

SCHOOL REPORT.

DISTRICT NO.1.

CHARLES B. SARGENT, Prudential Committee.

The school in this district was taught by Miss Emma F. Chase in two terms of 10 and 13 weeks. Whole number of pupils attending first term, 14; second term, 11; average daily attendance, 11 for the first term, 10 for the second. All attended to reading and spelling, 9 to penmanship, 9 to arithmetic, 3 to geography, 2 to grammar, 3 to composition. Number of visits by parents and citizens, 21. Wages paid teacher per month, \$24; miscellaneous expenses, \$9.70; money not expended, \$2.30; cost for each scholar, \$14. The school in this district opened under not very favorable circumstances, but by the persevering effort of the teacher, she succeeded far better than I expected, and, at the close of the fall term, there was good order, and the scholars had made very marked progress in their studies.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

WM. C. NOYES, Prudential Committee.

This school was taught by Miss Mary E. Eaton, 22 weeks—10 the first term and 12 the second. Whole number of pupils attending first term, 12; second term, 13; average daily attendance, 10 for both terms; all attended to reading and spelling, 9 to penmanship, 8 to arithmetic, 8 to geography, 2 to grammar, 2 to history, 2 to composition, 1 to physiology. Number of visits by parents and citizens, 21. Wages paid teacher per month, \$24; miscellaneous expenses, \$11.50; money not expended \$6.50; tuition for each scholar, \$12.50. This was a good school from beginning to end; the teacher was faithful and the scholars made good progress. The order in this school was remarkably good.

DISTRICT No. 3.

MOSES G. CALEF, Prudential Committee.

The school in this district was taught by Miss Frances Noyes, in two terms of 11 and 13 weeks. Whole number of pupils attending first term, 13; second term, 15; average daily attendance first term, 13; second term, 15. All attended to reading and spelling, 15 to penmanship, 10 to arithmetic, 8 to geography, 10 to grammar, 1 to history, 10 to composition, 15 to drawing, 15 to vocal music, 2 to physiology, 2 to algebra. Number of visits by parents and citizens, 77. Wages paid teacher per month, \$24; miscellaneous expenses, \$8.25; money not expended, 75 cts. Tuition per scholar, \$10.

The teacher in this school has had nine years experience in teaching, both in this state and Massachusetts, and needs no eulogium from me. She is a thorough scholar and her *works* praise her.

DISTRICT No. 4.

JOHN W. S. COOK, Prudential Committee.

The school in this district was taught by Miss Lizzie B Kimball, in two terms of 9 and 15 weeks. Whole number of pupils attending first term, 6; second term, 5; average daily attendance first term, 5; second term, 4. All attended to reading and spelling, 4 to penmanship, 8 to arithmetic, 3 to geography, 3 to grammar, 2 to history, 3 to composition; 4 to vocal music. Number of visits by parents and citizens, 29. Wages paid teacher per month, \$24; miscellaneous expenses, \$6.65; money not expended, \$3.35. Tuition of each pupil attending school in this district the past year, \$27.50.

Considering the inexperience of the teacher and the smallness of the school, perhaps there was as much accomplished as could be reasonably expected. The teacher was very conscientious, and, I think, did what she could under the circumstances.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

MOSES B. STEVENS, Prudential Committee.

This school was taught by Miss Minnie E. Stevens in two terms of 9 and 13 weeks. Whole number of pupils attending first term, 9; second term, 11; average daily attendance, 7 for both terms; all attended to reading and spelling, 7 to penmanship, 9 to arithmetic, 5 to geography 3 to grammar, 1 to history, 6 to composition, 1 to drawing, 10 to vocal music. Number of visits by parents and citizens, 45. Wages paid teacher per month, \$24; miscellaneous expenses, \$10.95; money not expended, \$7.05; tuition for each scholar, \$13.63. This was Miss Stevens' first experience in school teaching. In my several visits to this school I have always found the scholars quiet and studious, answering all questions promptly, and what they had been over was apparently well understood. I have seen nothing to condemn in this school.

I very much regret the unpleasantness that exists in some of the districts in town. It is almost impossible to have a profitable school unless the teacher has the united support of the whole district.

In looking over my reports for several years past, I find several remedies suggested for our small schools. But, neither the town or the districts have seen fit to make any move to get out of the old rut. Perhaps the time has not yet come. We are not so bad off as some of the towns in our State. On referring to the last report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, he says: "If the Legislature declines in the future, as it has in the past, to make any change, I must urge the uniting of districts under the law as it now stands. The continuous outdrift of the inhabitants from the farming towns renders such action imperative if we would save the old time intelligence and thrift of the State. It will be an unfortunate day when the wealth and influence of the country are absorbed by the cities, and when the business and political power of the land fall into the control of great centres and corporations. The tendency is in that direction, and can only be counteracted by superior force and intelli-

gence in the rural population. I have visited a large, well ordered house, fitted to hold fifty scholars, where I found only three lonely children the entire pupilage of the district, and there are districts in the State where once there were seventy and a hundred scholars, but where today there is not one. In almost every town there are schools which should be united and where, with such a change, the present school tax should furnish the children with longer and better schools, and pay for the transportation of the more distant to and from school. In some places it would seem to be advisable to provide primary schools for the smaller children in easily accessible localities, and one or more schools in central positions, in which all the larger scholars of the town could pursue the branches of a higher education, under competent teachers and with no additional expense. In this way something of the advantages of a graded system might be enjoyed even by the sparsely settled towns of the State."

I understand the Selectmen have inserted an article in the warrant for the next town meeting, to raise two hundred dollars extra for schools this year. Do we need any more money for this purpose? Not if what the law requires us to raise is rightly applied. Last year we had \$750 school money, divided equally among the five districts. Fifty-six scholars attended these schools; 29 of this number were 10 years of age and above. One-half of the sum raised (\$375) would have kept a school three terms of 12 weeks each, for these 29 scholars, and pay a teacher \$36 a month, and have \$51 left for miscellaneous expenses. The other half (\$375) would have kept a term of 15 1-2 weeks in *each* of the four out-lying districts, for the other 27 children, under 10 years of age, paying the teachers \$24 per month. We have all the school houses (and well located) that we need, in order to carry into operation some plan by which we shall get larger returns for our money expended for schools. I ask you to at least *think* of this matter, and, when the time does come, *act*.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN DOW, Supt. of Schools.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Including the names of all pupils who have been present every half day of a term without being tardy.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

FIRST TERM.

BENJAMIN W. BATCHELDER.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

FIRST TERM.

FLORA SMITH.
WILBUR SMITH.
BERTIE SMITH.
ARTHUR SMITH.

SECOND TERM.

ADA L. WHITAKER.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

FIRST TERM.

FRANK I. KNIGHT.
WILLIE E. NOYES.
WALTER S. NOYES.
JOSIAH I. WRIGHT.
LIZZIE F. BARROWS.
FANNIE S. BARROWS.
LIZZIE H. KNIGHT.
MARY L. NOYES.
*ALICE P. CALEF.

SECOND TERM.

FRANK I. KNIGHT.
FRED M. KNIGHT.
JOSIAH I. WRIGHT.
HARRY I. NOYES.
ALICE P. CALEF.
†LIZZIE F. BARROWS.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

FIRST TERM.

FREDDIE E. STEVENS.

SECOND TERM.

CLARENCE N. TREFRY.
FREDDIE E. STEVENS.

*(Tardy, but not absent.)

†(Tardy once.)

